

General Education Committee
November 10, 2016 Minutes

Began: 12:30 p.m.
Adjourned: 1:20 p.m.

Present: Michael Machiorlatti, Michael Boyle, Ernest Gobert, Dr. Janet Perry, Dr. Max Simmons, Dr. Courtney Vahlberg, Mary Turner, Dr. Angela Cotner, Dr. Jeff Anderson

Absent: Jennifer Brumley, Greg Gardner, Dana Tuley-Williams, Catherine Kinyon, Dr. Glenne' Whisenhunt

There was a brief discussion about adding Haifeng Ji back to the committee. It was suggested that the appropriate process for this is to ask each faculty member if he/she would like to be added to the committee and to then send an email formally requesting that that person be added.

Next, Michael Machiorlatti said that faculty in the Business division are moving toward adding a standard assessment to the end of their courses and that this might provide future artifacts to the committee.

Ernest then directed everyone's attention to the minutes from the October meeting. Max made a motion to approve the minutes. Courtney seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

Ernest then asked about committee recommendations and the process for making them. Michael Machiorlatti said that he is finishing his assessment of past artifact data. He and Ernest will meet to discuss the specific details of what the committee wants and needs. It was also mentioned that the outcomes for math were to be presented to the college's board of regents at the November 21st meeting. This was followed by a brief discussion of some of the challenges that OCCC students face with math. They seem to be able to follow formulas, but they struggle with drawing conclusions about the problems they have solved. Jeff said that he has changed the way he explains how to write a summary for his students in psych stats.

It was recommended that students be taught how to draw conclusions earlier in their academic careers. Committee members also agreed that students should be able to transfer their knowledge and skills to other disciplines. One question that arose was whether the students whose artifacts were submitted have taken a general education math (MATH 1503, MATH 1513, or MATH 2013) prior to completion of the artifact. This may or may not matter to the outcome, so the first question is finding out which students have and comparing their ratings on the math rubric to those of students who have not. If the outcomes are different, then there may be additional questions to pursue.

The committee adjourned at 1:20 p.m.